

## HUM 2020

### The Art of Being Human: Examining the Human Condition Through Literature, Art, & Film

#### Course Description:

This course invites students to explore the meaning of human endeavor and what makes life meaningful through an introduction to the thought, literature, and arts of Western culture from Antiquity to the Present Day.

Students will be encouraged to recognize that life is innately meaningful, and this meaning is influenced by the choices we make. In this course, students will gain an overview of the development of Western culture from Antiquity to the present as it is expressed through the arts (painting, sculpture, architecture, literature, music, film and the performing arts), and especially through literature. Students will study and analyze a variety of texts (either as excerpts or full text) of the Western world. From the earliest examples of Roman and Greek art, this course introduces students to the cultural and artistic movements of the Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque, Enlightenment, Rococo, Neoclassical, Romantic, Realist, Impressionist, Modernist, and Post-Modern, to the present day. This course examines the human condition through culture and the arts to better understand how the humanities are interconnected. The chief goal and focus of this course is to show how the past forms the basis of Western present-day values, artistic expression, and institutions.

#### Course Objectives:

This course is designed to enable the student to meet the requirements of **Humanities and Cultural Practice and State-Mandated Writing**:

- 1) Interpret intellectual or artistic works within a cultural context through *Essay 1*.
- 2) Use a cultural, artistic, or philosophical approach to analyze some aspect of human experience through *Essay 2*.
- 3) Compose for a specific purpose, occasion, and audience while conveying ideas in clear, coherent prose that utilizes the conventions of a standard language through *Essays* and *Capstone Paper*.

This course is designed to also enable students to:

- 1.) Analyze the major debates and paradigm shifts of the cultural period;
- 2.) Assess main literary and visual texts of the period in an integrated fashion;
- 3.) Explain the ideas of distinguished scholars in the field and apply them to the analysis of texts.
- 4.) Explain the characteristics of Greek and Roman culture, the Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque, Enlightenment, Rococo, Neoclassical, Romantic, Realist, Naturalist, Impressionist, Modernist and Post-Modern

#### Assessments:

<b>Capstone Paper</b>	1,200 words minimum
<b>Essay 1 and Essay 2</b>	500 words each minimum
<b>Midterm Essay</b>	500 words minimum
<b>Midterm Exam</b>	
<b>Final Exam</b>	
<b>Discussion Posts/Quizzes</b>	
<b>Capstone Draft/Outline</b>	1,000 words minimum
<b>Cultural Artifact</b>	1,000 words minimum
<b>Attendance / Participation</b>	

## **LIBERAL STUDIES STATEMENT**

This course has been approved to meet FSU's Liberal Studies Humanities and Cultural Practice requirements and helps you become a thoughtful patron of and participant in cultural practices.

By the end of this course, students will:

1. Interpret intellectual or artistic works within a cultural context.
2. Use a cultural, artistic, or philosophical approach to analyze some aspect of human experience.

This course has been approved to meet FSU's Liberal Studies "W" (State-Mandated Writing) requirement and helps you become a clear, creative, and convincing communicator.

By the end of this course, students will:

1. Compose for a specific purpose, occasion, and audience.
2. Convey ideas in clear, coherent prose that utilizes the conventions of a standard language.

In this course, you will compose as a process, including drafts, revision, and editing. The writing cultivated by this process conforms to FSU's definition of "college-level writing", which is writing that:

1. presents a clearly defined central idea or thesis;
2. provides adequate support for that idea;
3. is organized clearly and logically;
4. is presented in a format appropriate to the purpose, occasion, and audience;
5. utilizes standard conventions appropriate for study in English.

As such, this course requires the completion of two or more substantial writing assignments or the equivalent. Instructors will provide criteria for evaluating your performance on writing, feedback on your writing (including instructor response), and opportunities for revision.

To demonstrate college-level writing competency as required by the State of Florida, the student must earn a "C-" or higher in the course, and earn at least a "C-" average on the required writing assignments. If the student does not earn a "C-" average or better on the required writing assignments, the student will not earn an overall grade of "C-" or better in the course, no matter how well the student performs in the remaining portion of the course.

## **UNIVERSITY ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Excused absences include documented illness, deaths in the family and other documented crises, call to active military duty or jury duty, religious holy days, and official University activities. These absences will be accommodated in a way that does not arbitrarily penalize students who have a valid excuse. Consideration will also be given to students whose dependent children experience serious illness.

## **ACADEMIC HONOR POLICY**

The Florida State University Academic Honor Policy outlines the University's expectations for the integrity of students' academic work, the procedures for resolving alleged violations of those expectations, and the rights and responsibilities of students and faculty members throughout the

process. Students are responsible for reading the Academic Honor Policy and for living up to their pledge to "...be honest and truthful and... [to] strive for personal and institutional integrity at Florida State University." (Florida State University Academic Honor Policy, found at <http://fda.fsu.edu/Academics/Academic-Honor-Policy>)

## **AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT**

Florida State University (FSU) values diversity and inclusion; we are committed to a climate of mutual respect and full participation. Our goal is to create learning environments that are usable, equitable, inclusive, and welcoming. FSU is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities in a manner that is consistent with academic standards of the course while empowering the student to meet integral requirements of the course.

To receive academic accommodations, a student:

(1) must register with and provide documentation to the Office of Accessibility Services (OAS); (2) must provide a letter from OAS to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type; and, (3) should communicate with the instructor, as needed, to discuss recommended accommodations. A request for a meeting may be initiated by the student or the instructor.

Please note that instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodations to a student until appropriate verification from the Office of Accessibility Services has been provided.

This syllabus and other class materials are available in alternative format upon request.

For more information about services available to FSU students with disabilities, contact the

Office of Accessibility Services 874 Traditions Way 108 Student Services Building Florida State University Tallahassee, FL 32306-4167 (850) 644-9566 (voice) (850) 644-8504 (TDD)  
oas@fsu.edu <https://dsst.fsu.edu/oas>

## **ACADEMIC SUCCESS**

Your academic success is a top priority for Florida State University. University resources to help you succeed include tutoring centers, computer labs, counseling and health services, and services for designated groups, such as veterans and students with disabilities. The following information is not exhaustive, so please check with your advisor or the Dean of Students office to learn more.

## **CONFIDENTIAL CAMPUS RESOURCES**

Various centers and programs are available to assist students with navigating stressors that might impact academic success. These include the following:

Victim Advocate Program  
University Center A, Rm. 4100  
(850) 644-7161  
Available 24/7/365  
Office Hours: M-F 8-5  
<https://dsst.fsu.edu/vap>

Counseling and Psychological Services  
Askew Student Life Center, 2nd floor  
942 Learning Way  
(850) 644-8255  
<https://counseling.fsu.edu/>

University Health Services  
Health and Wellness Center  
(850) 644-6230  
<https://uhs.fsu.edu/>